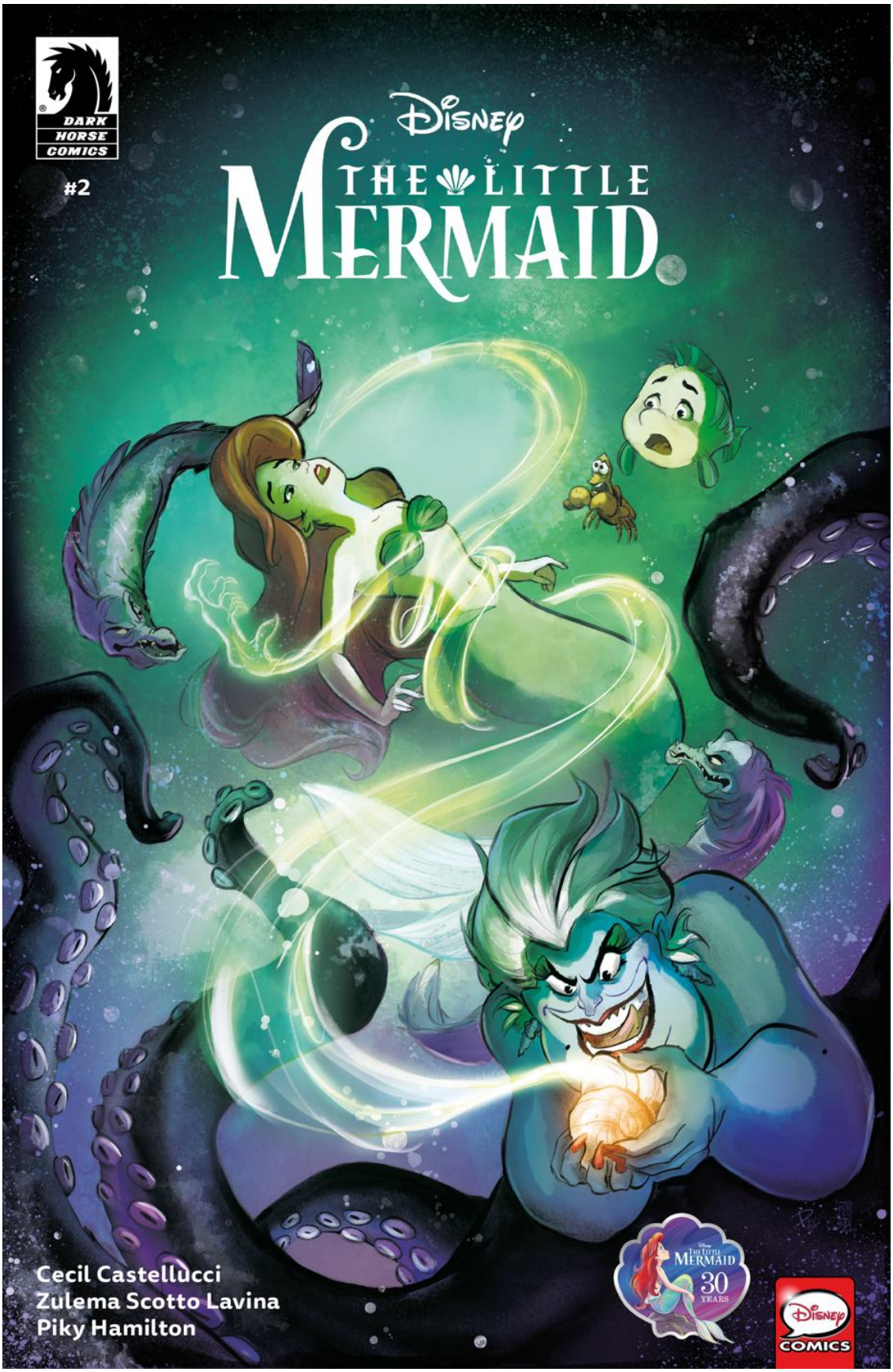
DARK HORSE COMICS
#2
Disney
THE LITTLE MERMAID
Cecil Castellucci
Zulema Scotto Lavina
Piky Hamilton
THE LITTLE MERMAID
30 YEARS
Disney COMICS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Disney The Little Mermaid

Chapter Two

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Piky Hamilton

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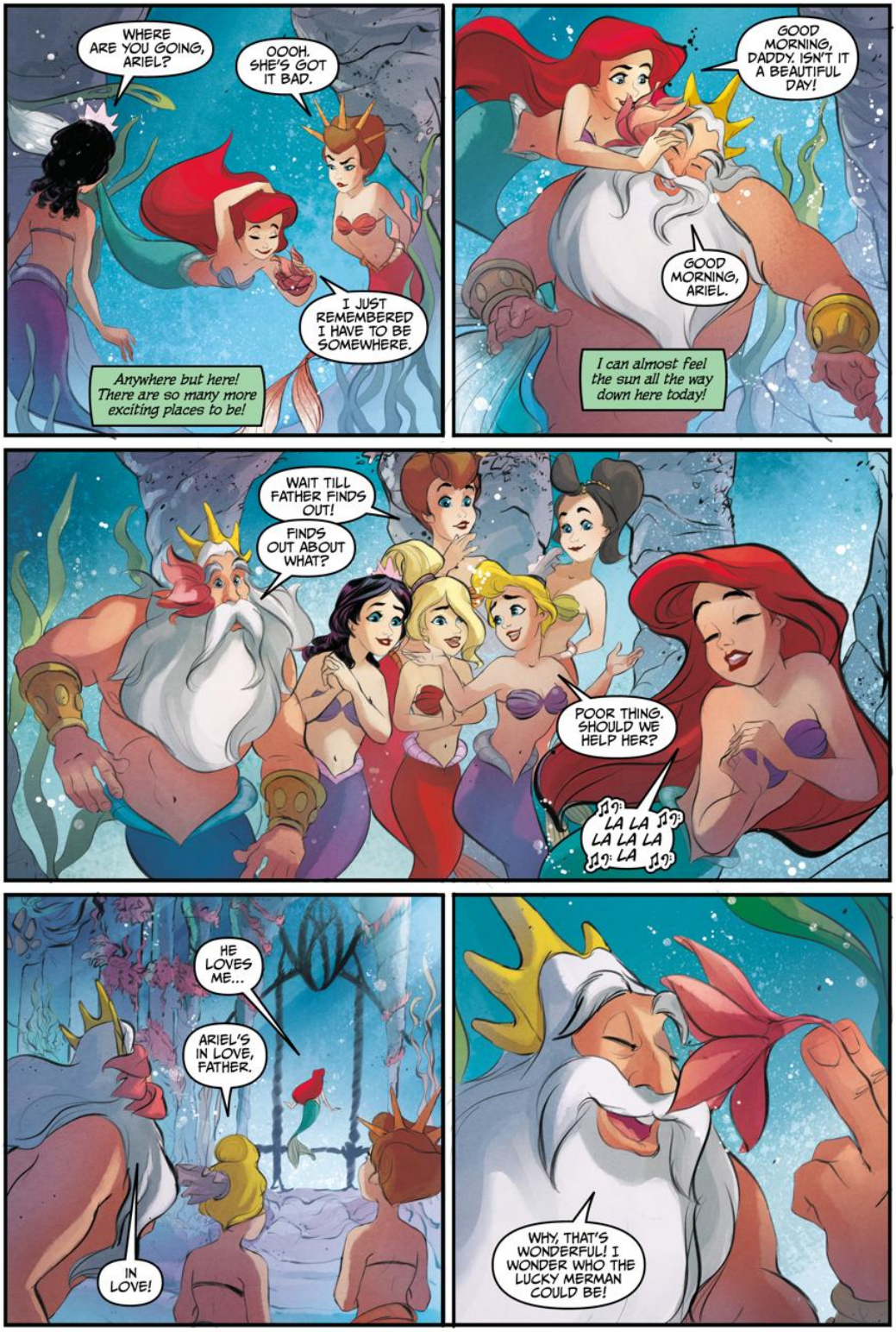
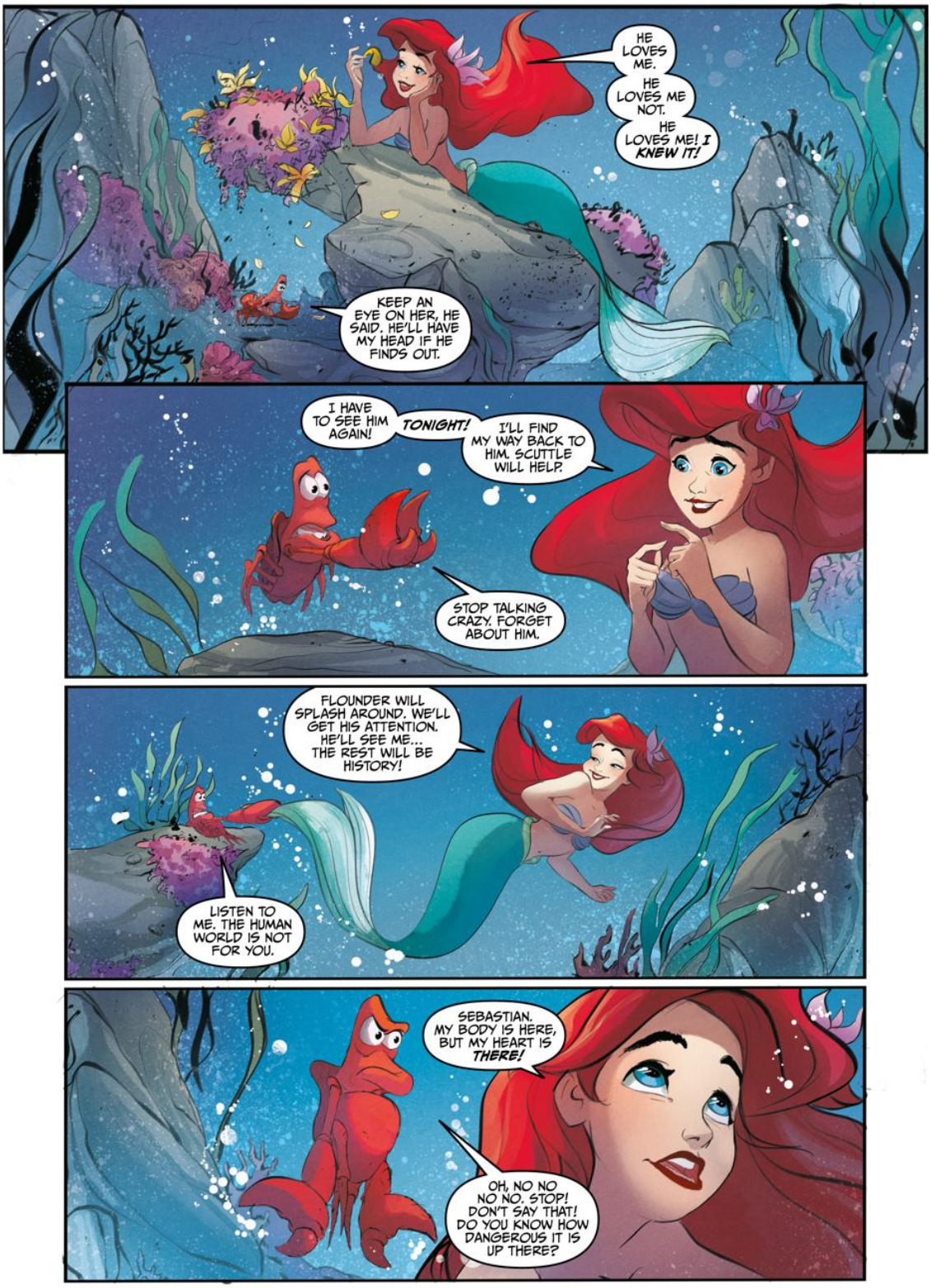
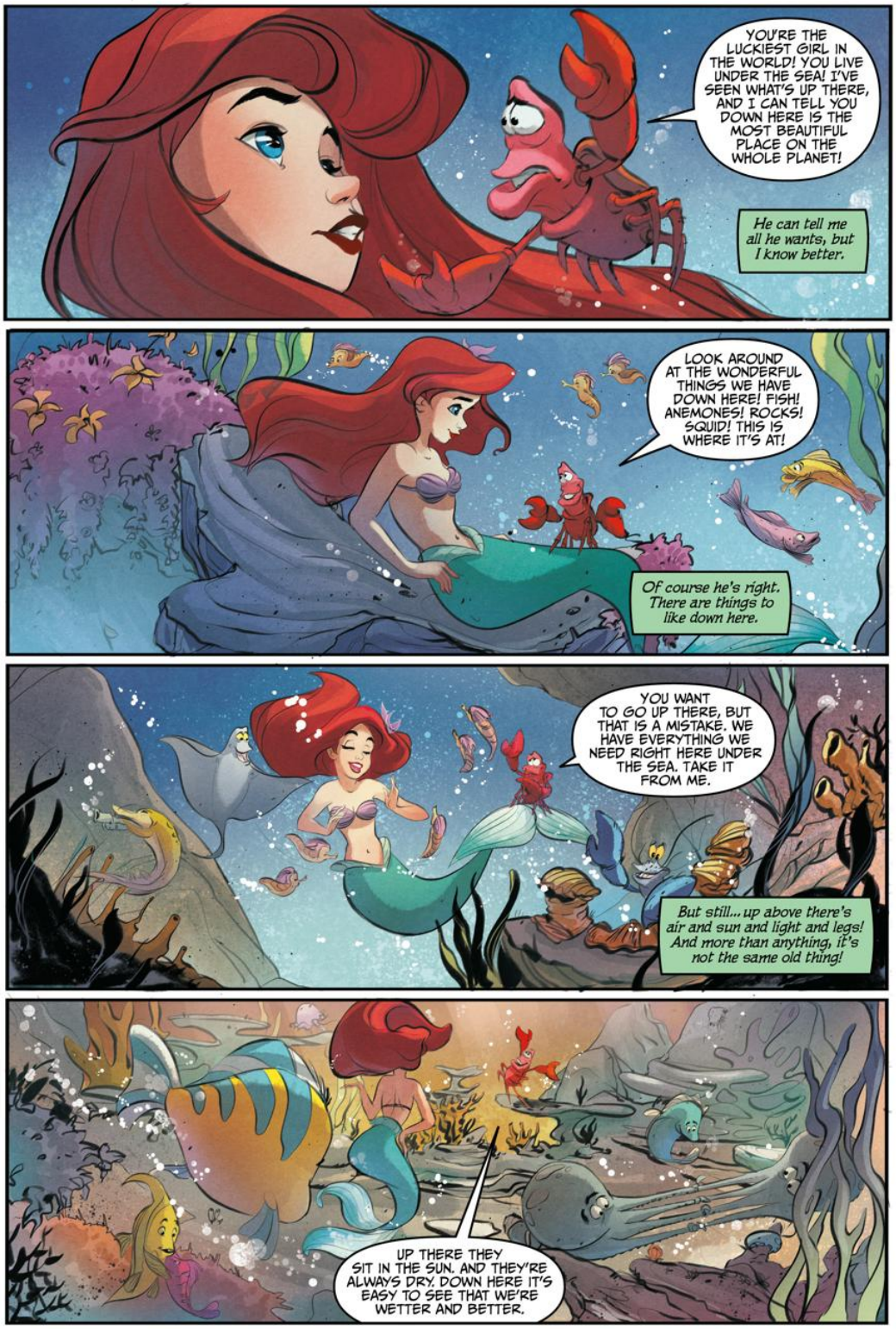
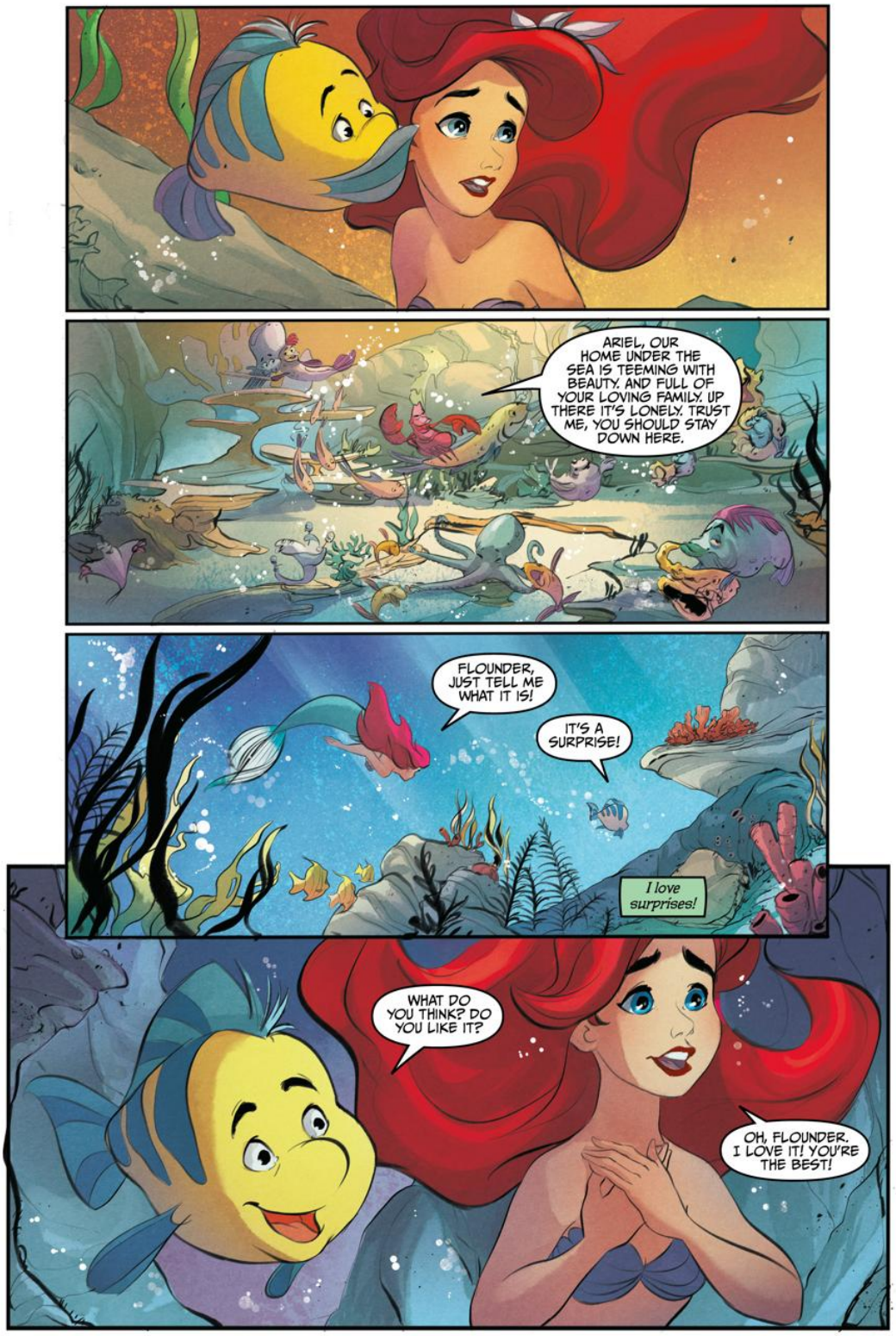
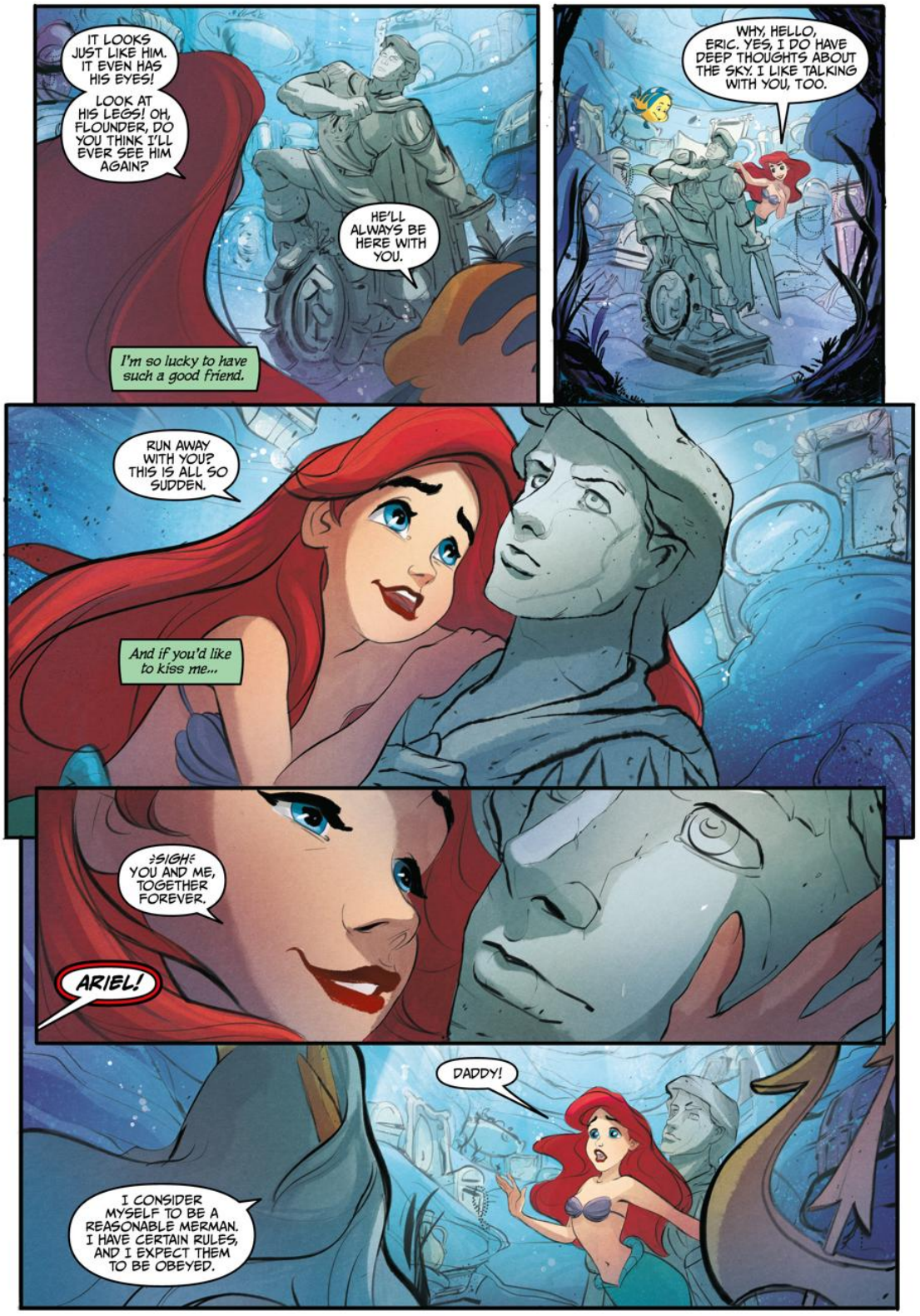
Chapter Two
I KNOW THAT LOOK.
ARIEL'S IN LOVE!
SHE'S BEEN SMITTEN FOR DAYS.
LUCKY MERMAN, ARIEL'S GOT A BIG HEART.
♫: LA LA ♫: LA LA LA ♫: LA ♫:
I WONDER WHO IT IS?
When can I go back? What else will I see?!


WHERE ARE YOU GOING, ARIEL?
OOOH. SHE'S GOT IT BAD.
I JUST REMEMBERED I HAVE TO BE SOMEWHERE.
Anywhere but here! There are so many more exciting places to be!
GOOD MORNING, DADDY. ISN'T IT A BEAUTIFUL DAY!
GOOD MORNING, ARIEL.
I can almost feel the sun all the way down here today!
WAIT TILL FATHER FINDS OUT!
FINDS OUT ABOUT WHAT?
POOR THING. SHOULD WE HELP HER?
♫: LA LA LA LA LA LA ♫:
HE LOVES ME...
ARIEL'S IN LOVE, FATHER.
IN LOVE!
WHY, THAT'S WONDERFUL! I WONDER WHO THE LUCKY MERMAN COULD BE!


HE LOVES ME.
HE LOVES ME NOT.
HE LOVES ME! I KNEW IT!
KEEP AN EYE ON HER, HE SAID. HE'LL HAVE MY HEAD IF HE FINDS OUT.
I HAVE TO SEE HIM AGAIN!
TONIGHT!
I'LL FIND MY WAY BACK TO HIM. SCUTTLE WILL HELP.
STOP TALKING CRAZY. FORGET ABOUT HIM.
FLOUNDER WILL SPLASH AROUND. WE'LL GET HIS ATTENTION. HE'LL SEE ME... THE REST WILL BE HISTORY!
LISTEN TO ME. THE HUMAN WORLD IS NOT FOR YOU.
SEBASTIAN. MY BODY IS HERE, BUT MY HEART IS THERE!
OH, NO NO NO NO. STOP! DON'T SAY THAT! DO YOU KNOW HOW DANGEROUS IT IS UP THERE?

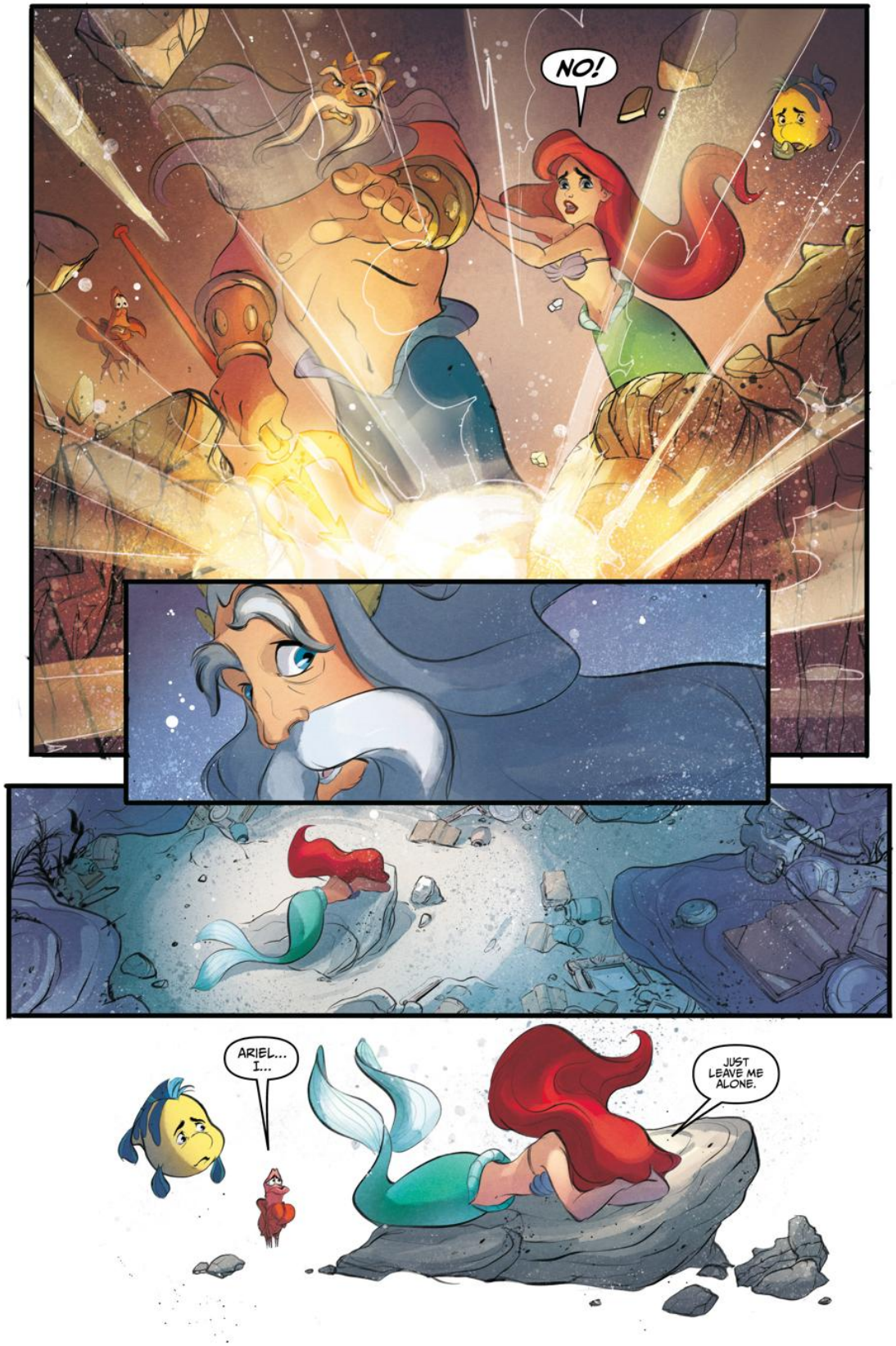

YOU'RE THE LUCKIEST GIRL IN THE WORLD! YOU LIVE UNDER THE SEA! I'VE SEEN WHAT'S UP THERE, AND I CAN TELL YOU DOWN HERE IS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL PLACE ON THE WHOLE PLANET!
He can tell me all he wants, but I know better.
LOOK AROUND AT THE WONDERFUL THINGS WE HAVE DOWN HERE! FISH! ANEMONES! ROCKS! SQUID! THIS IS WHERE IT'S AT!
Of course he's right. There are things to like down here.
YOU WANT TO GO UP THERE, BUT THAT IS A MISTAKE. WE HAVE EVERYTHING WE NEED RIGHT HERE UNDER THE SEA. TAKE IT FROM ME.
But still... up above there's air and sun and light and legs! And more than anything, it's not the same old thing!
UP THERE THEY SIT IN THE SUN. AND THEY'RE ALWAYS DRY. DOWN HERE IT'S EASY TO SEE THAT WE'RE WETTER AND BETTER.

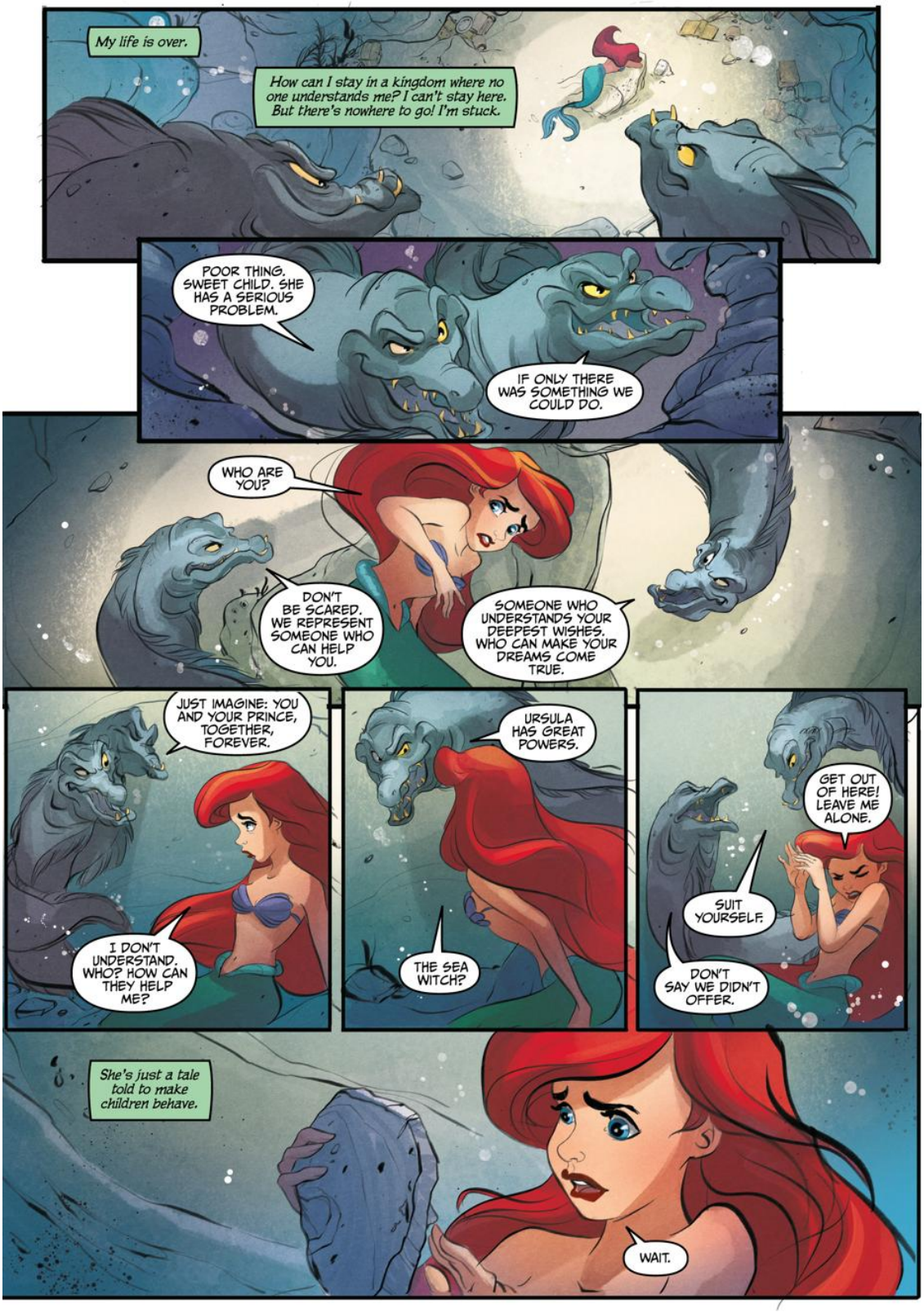

ARIEL, OUR HOME UNDER THE SEA IS TEEMING WITH BEAUTY. AND FULL OF YOUR LOVING FAMILY. UP THERE IT'S LONELY. TRUST ME, YOU SHOULD STAY DOWN HERE.
FLOUNDER, JUST TELL ME WHAT IT IS!
IT'S A SURPRISE!
I love surprises!
WHAT DO YOU THINK? DO YOU LIKE IT?
OH, FLOUNDER. I LOVE IT! YOU'RE THE BEST!

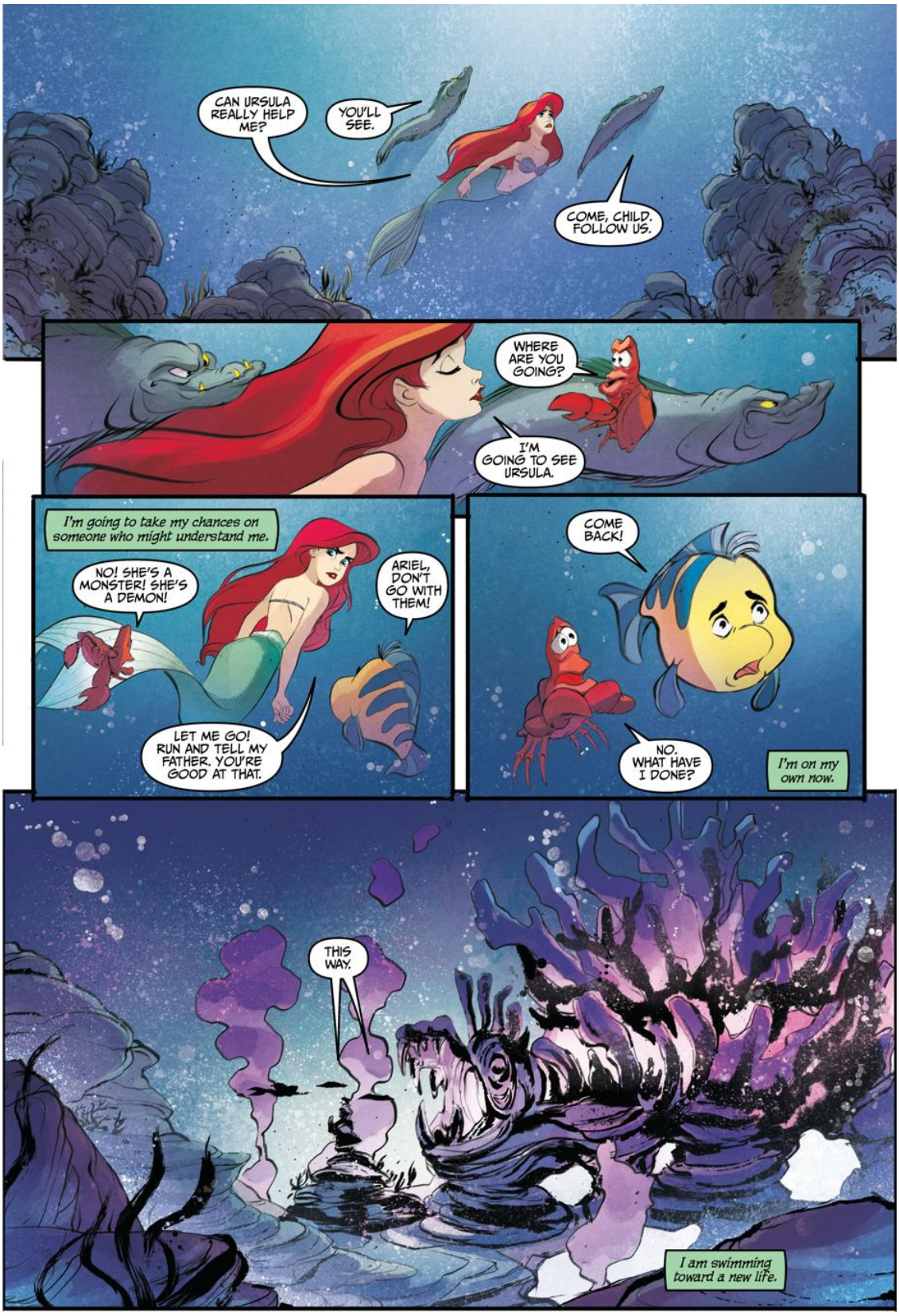

IT LOOKS JUST LIKE HIM. IT EVEN HAS HIS EYES!
LOOK AT HIS LEGS! OH, FLOUNDER, DO YOU THINK I'LL EVER SEE HIM AGAIN?
HE'LL ALWAYS BE HERE WITH YOU.
I'm so lucky to have such a good friend.
WHY, HELLO, ERIC. YES, I DO HAVE DEEP THOUGHTS ABOUT THE SKY. I LIKE TALKING WITH YOU, TOO.
RUN AWAY WITH YOU? THIS IS ALL SO SUDDEN.
And if you'd like to kiss me...
:SIGH: YOU AND ME, TOGETHER FOREVER.
ARIEL!
DADDY!
I CONSIDER MYSELF TO BE A REASONABLE MERMAN. I HAVE CERTAIN RULES, AND I EXPECT THEM TO BE OBEYED.

IS IT TRUE THAT YOU RESCUED A HUMAN FROM DROWNING?
HE WOULD HAVE DIED! I HAD TO HELP HIM!
ONE LESS HUMAN TO WORRY ABOUT. THEY ARE DANGEROUS!
IT'S NOT TRUE. YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW HIM. HE'S GOOD.
KNOW HIM? THEY'RE ALL THE SAME. SAVAGES. BRUTAL. FISH KILLERS.
DADDY, I LOVE HIM!
NO! THAT CAN NEVER BE. HE'S A HUMAN. YOU'RE A MERMAID.

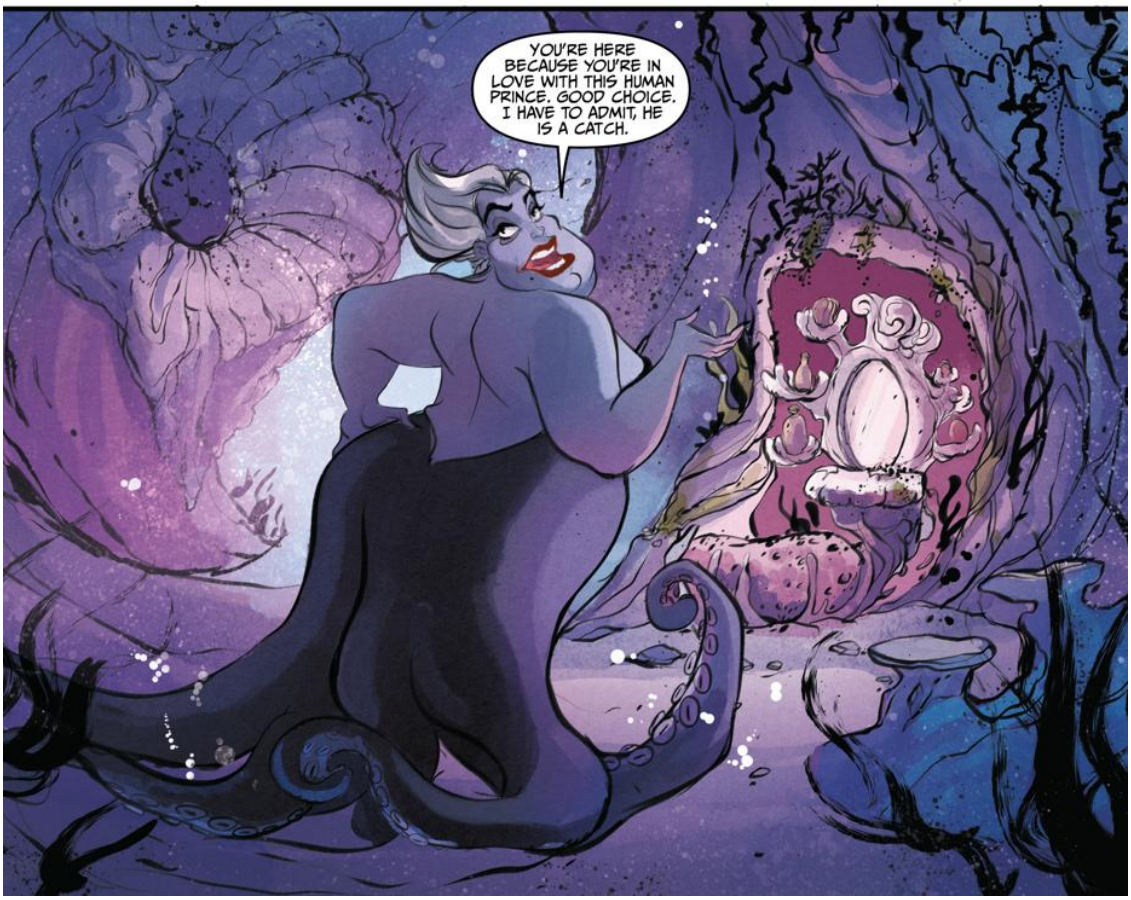
I DON'T CARE. HE HAS MY HEART.
I'M GOING TO GET THROUGH TO YOU. AND IF THIS IS THE ONLY WAY, SO BE IT. THIS ENDS NOW.
NO, DADDY, NO!
PLEASE, STOP. I BEG OF YOU!

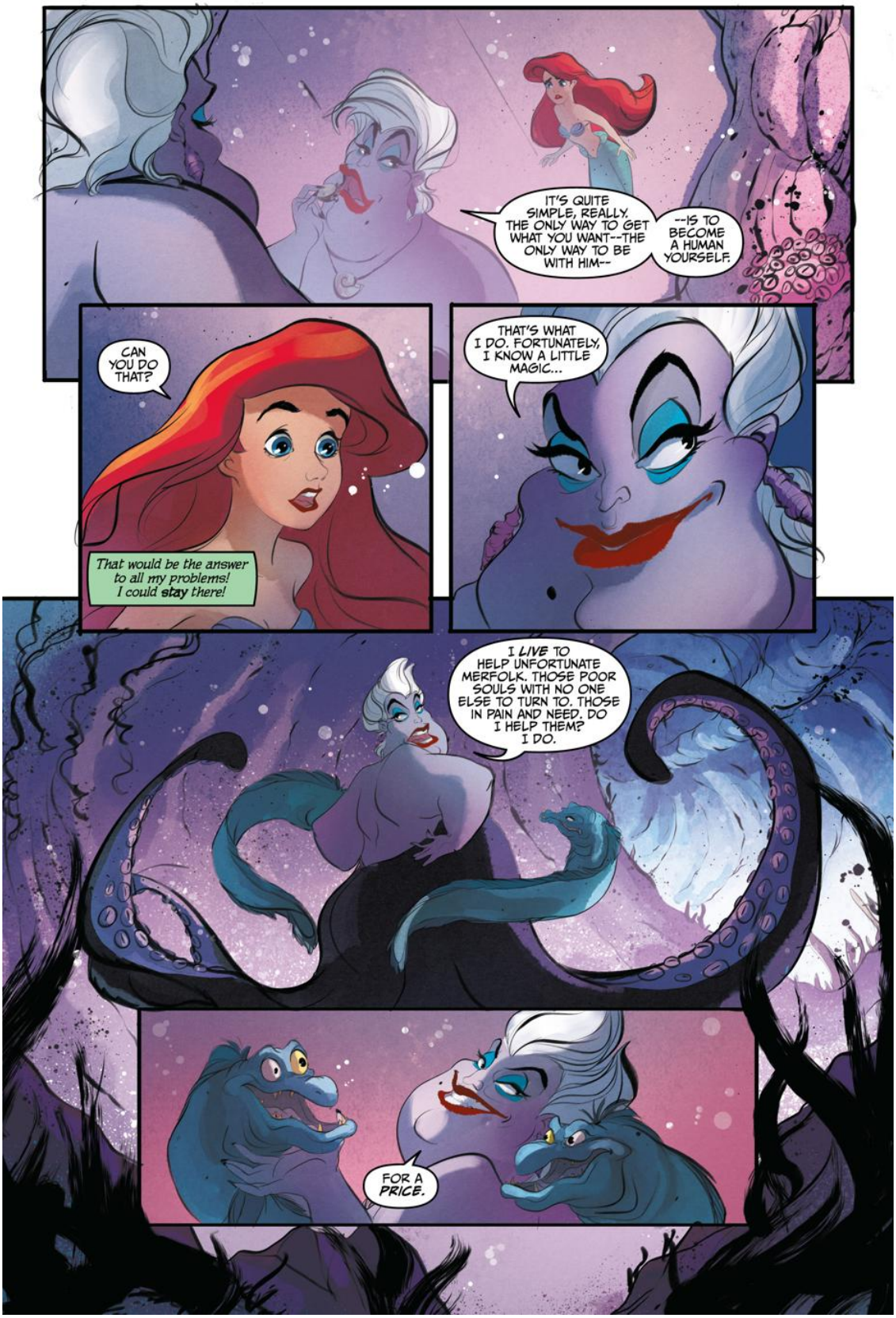

NO!
ARIEL... I...
JUST LEAVE ME ALONE.


My life is over.
How can I stay in a kingdom where no one understands me? I can't stay here. But there's nowhere to go! I'm stuck.
POOR THING. SWEET CHILD. SHE HAS A SERIOUS PROBLEM.
IF ONLY THERE WAS SOMETHING WE COULD DO.
WHO ARE YOU?
DON'T BE SCARED. WE REPRESENT SOMEONE WHO CAN HELP YOU.
SOMEONE WHO UNDERSTANDS YOUR DEEPEST WISHES. WHO CAN MAKE YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE.
JUST IMAGINE: YOU AND YOUR PRINCE, TOGETHER, FOREVER.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND. WHO? HOW CAN THEY HELP ME?
URSULA HAS GREAT POWERS.
THE SEA WITCH?
GET OUT OF HERE! LEAVE ME ALONE.
SUIT YOURSELF.
DON'T SAY WE DIDN'T OFFER.
She's just a tale told to make children behave.
WAIT.

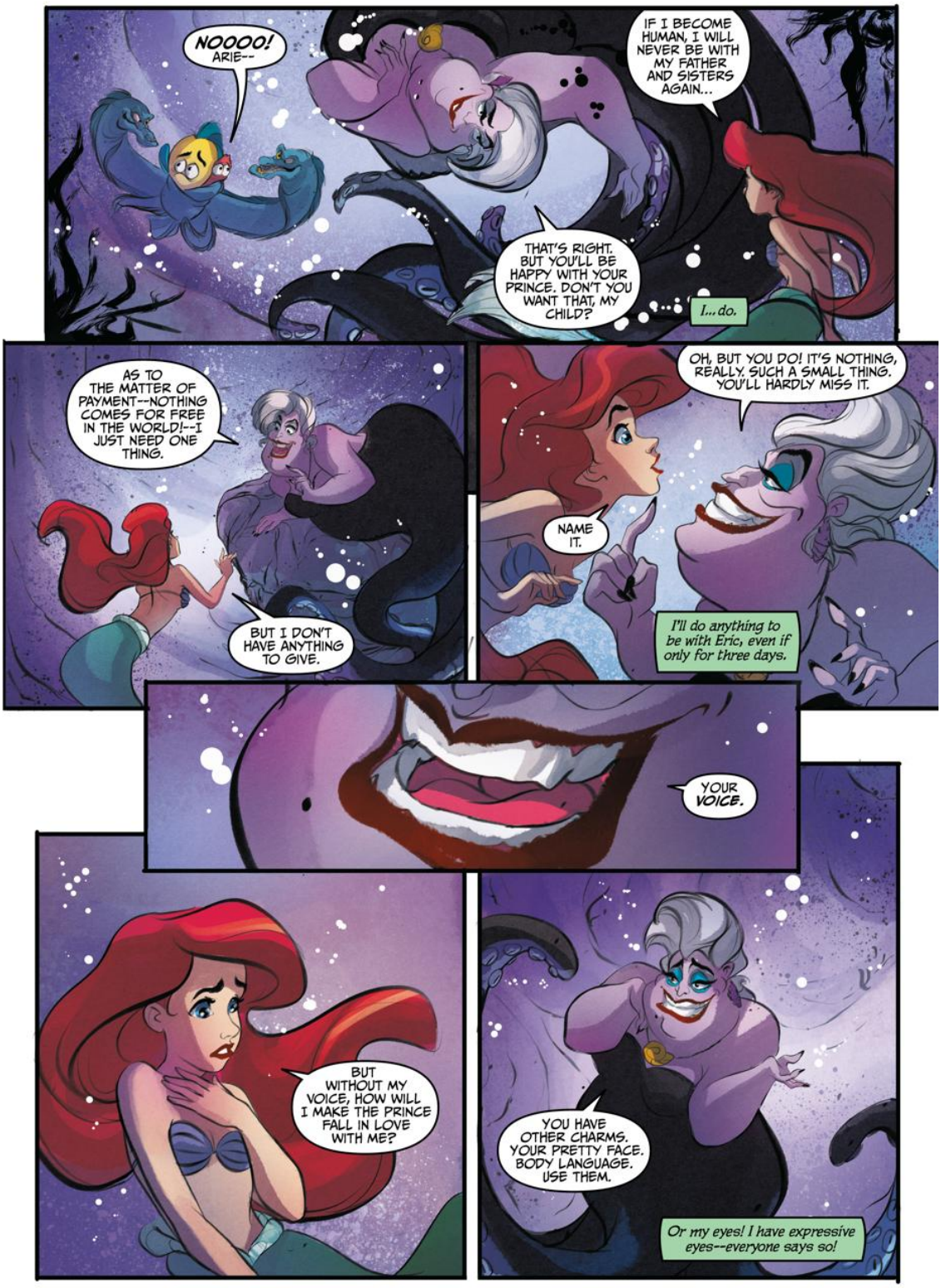

CAN URSULA REALLY HELP ME?
YOU'LL SEE.
COME, CHILD. FOLLOW US.
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
I'M GOING TO SEE URSULA.
I'm going to take my chances on someone who might understand me.
NO! SHE'S A MONSTER! SHE'S A DEMON!
ARIEL, DON'T GO WITH THEM!
LET ME GO! RUN AND TELL MY FATHER. YOU'RE GOOD AT THAT.
COME BACK!
NO. WHAT HAVE I DONE?
I'm on my own now.
THIS WAY.
I am swimming toward a new life.

NEVER MIND THEM. COME IN. COME IN.
DON'T LURK IN DOORWAYS. HOW WERE YOU BROUGHT UP? LET ME GET A CLOSER LOOK AT YOU.

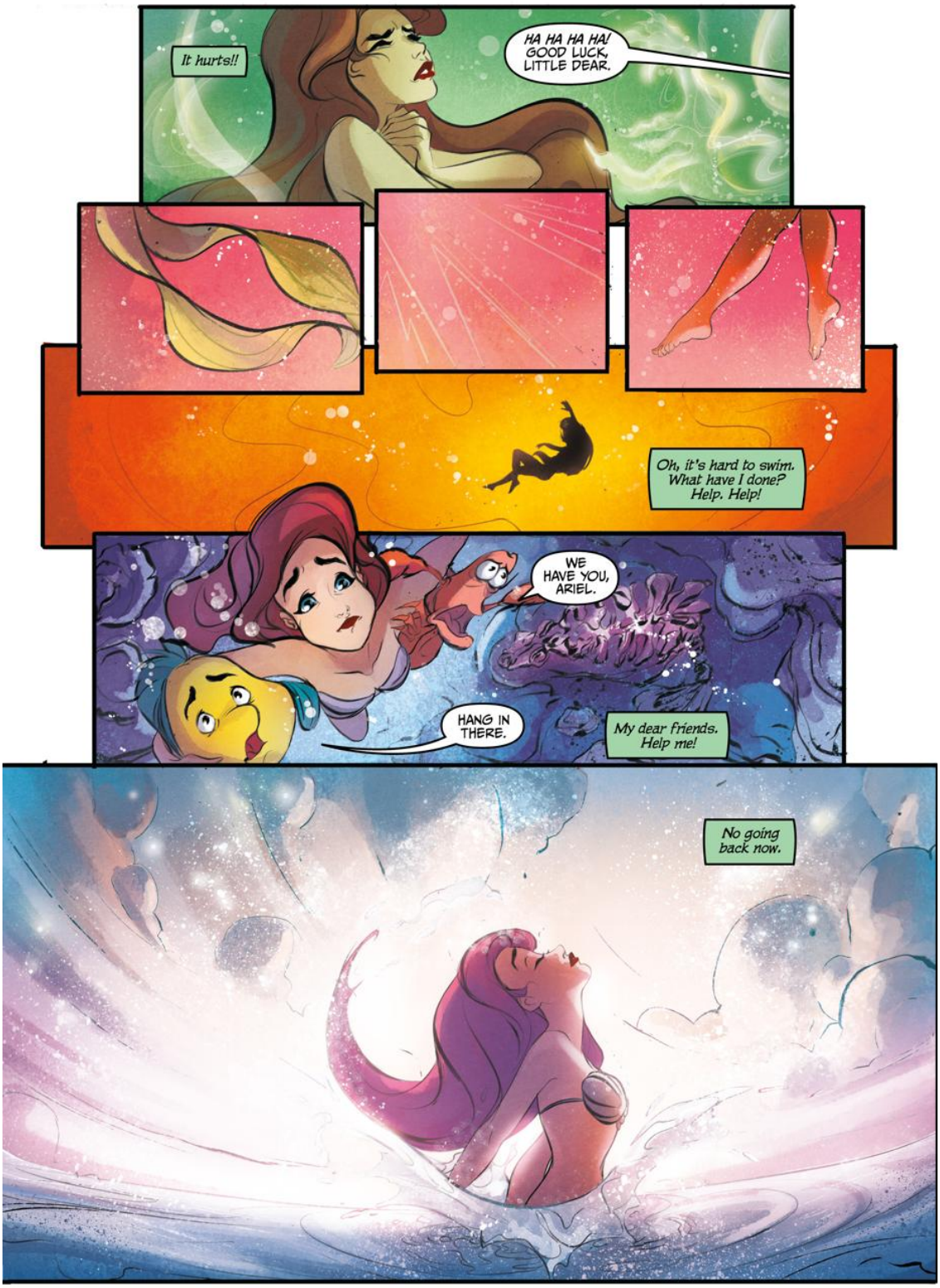

YOU'RE HERE BECAUSE YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH THIS HUMAN PRINCE. GOOD CHOICE. I HAVE TO ADMIT, HE IS A CATCH.

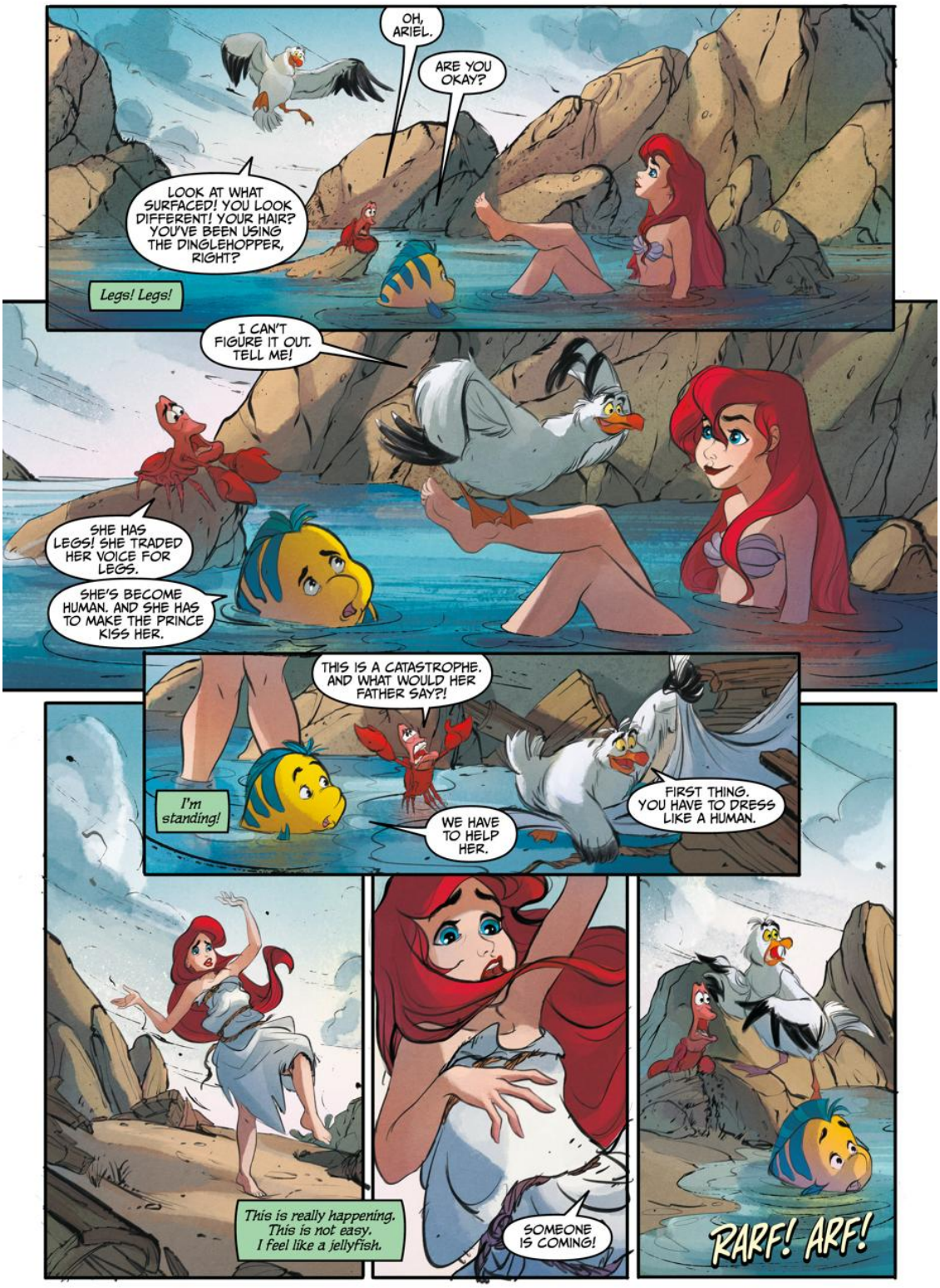

IT'S QUITE SIMPLE, REALLY. THE ONLY WAY TO GET WHAT YOU WANT--THE ONLY WAY TO BE WITH HIM--
--IS TO BECOME A HUMAN YOURSELF.
CAN YOU DO THAT?
That would be the answer to all my problems! I could **stay** there!
THAT'S WHAT I DO. FORTUNATELY, I KNOW A LITTLE MAGIC...
I *LIVE* TO HELP UNFORTUNATE MERFOLK. THOSE POOR SOULS WITH NO ONE ELSE TO TURN TO. THOSE IN PAIN AND NEED. DO I HELP THEM? I DO.
FOR A *PRICE*.

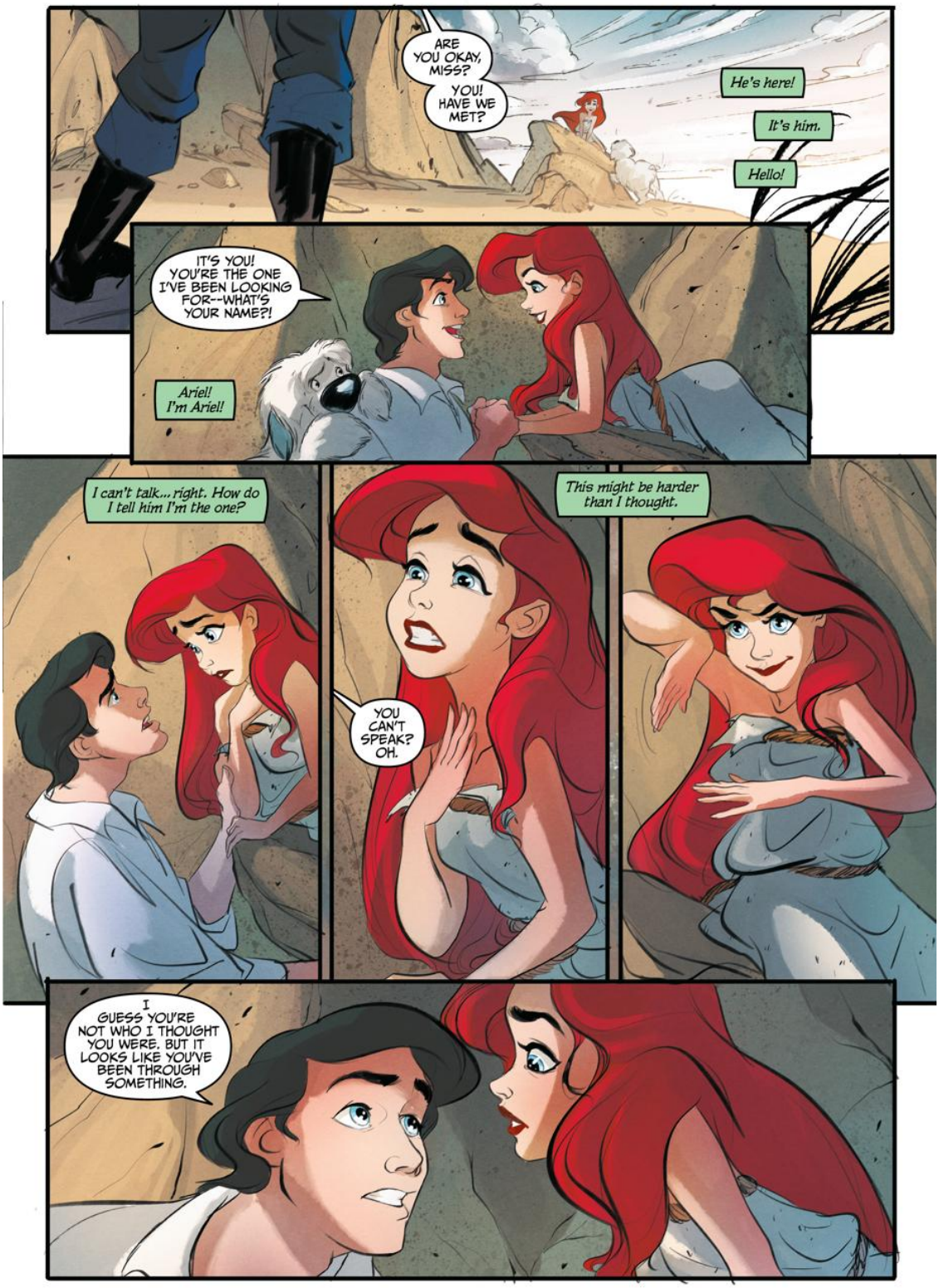
HERE'S THE DEAL. I TURN YOU INTO A HUMAN FOR THREE DAYS.
THREE DAYS.
I'd have legs. I'd walk. I could maybe dance!
BEFORE THE SUN SETS ON THE THIRD DAY, YOU HAVE TO GET DEAR OL' PRINCEY TO FALL IN LOVE WITH YOU.
In love...
AS IN, HE HAS TO KISS YOU. A KISS OF TRUE LOVE.
A kiss...
We are in love. I just know it in my heart. How hard could this task be?
IF THIS KISS DOES HAPPEN, THEN YOU WILL REMAIN HUMAN FOREVER--
FOREVER?!
But that would mean...
IF IT DOESN'T... YOU TURN BACK INTO A MERMAID. AND YOU BELONG TO ME.

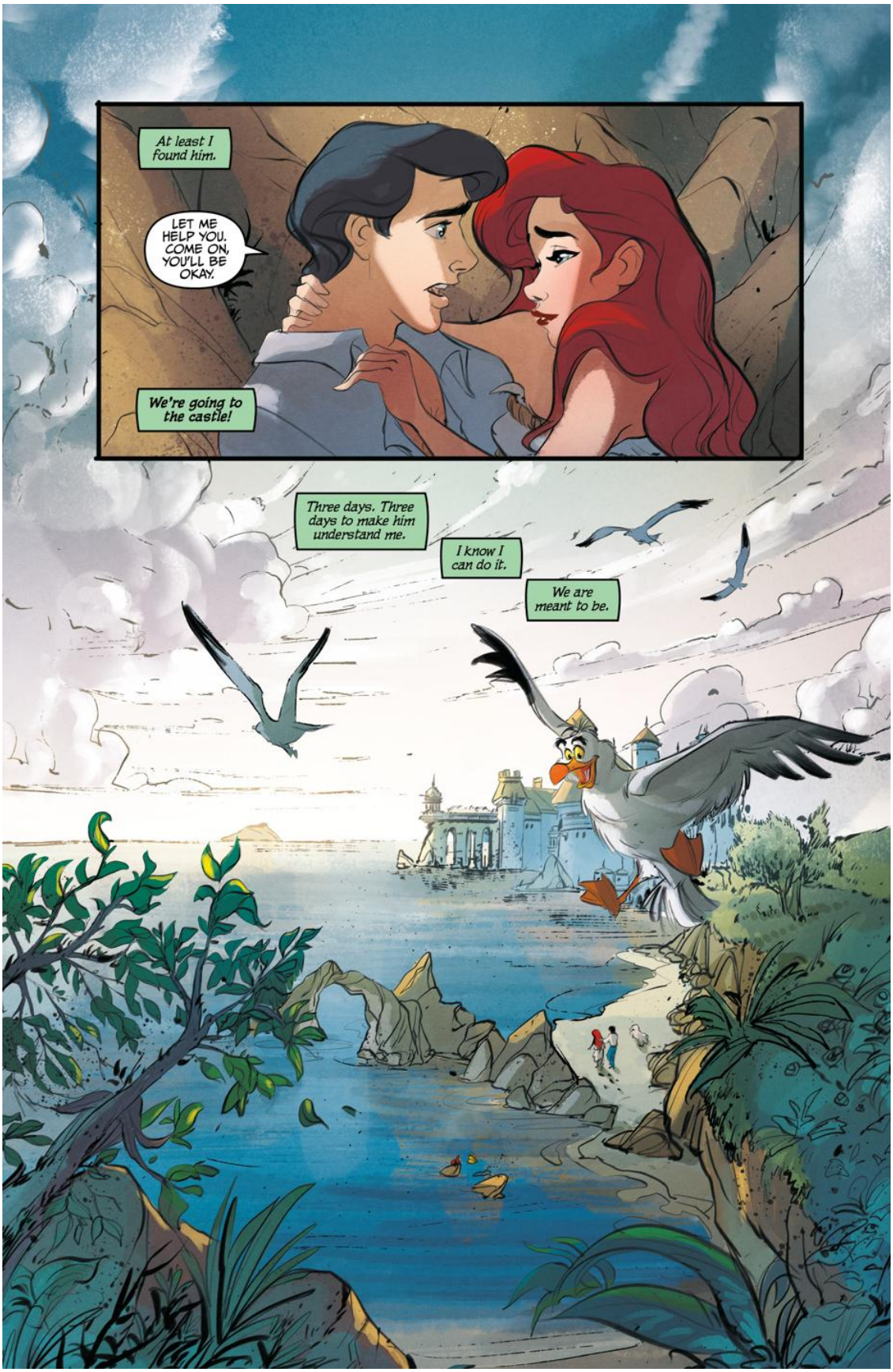

NOOOO! ARIE--
IF I BECOME HUMAN, I WILL NEVER BE WITH MY FATHER AND SISTERS AGAIN...
THAT'S RIGHT. BUT YOU'LL BE HAPPY WITH YOUR PRINCE. DON'T YOU WANT THAT, MY CHILD?
I... do.
AS TO THE MATTER OF PAYMENT--NOTHING COMES FOR FREE IN THE WORLD!--I JUST NEED ONE THING.
BUT I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO GIVE.
OH, BUT YOU DO! IT'S NOTHING, REALLY. SUCH A SMALL THING. YOU'LL HARDLY MISS IT.
NAME IT.
I'll do anything to be with Eric, even if only for three days.
YOUR VOICE.
BUT WITHOUT MY VOICE, HOW WILL I MAKE THE PRINCE FALL IN LOVE WITH ME?
YOU HAVE OTHER CHARMS. YOUR PRETTY FACE. BODY LANGUAGE. USE THEM.
Or my eyes! I have expressive eyes--everyone says so!

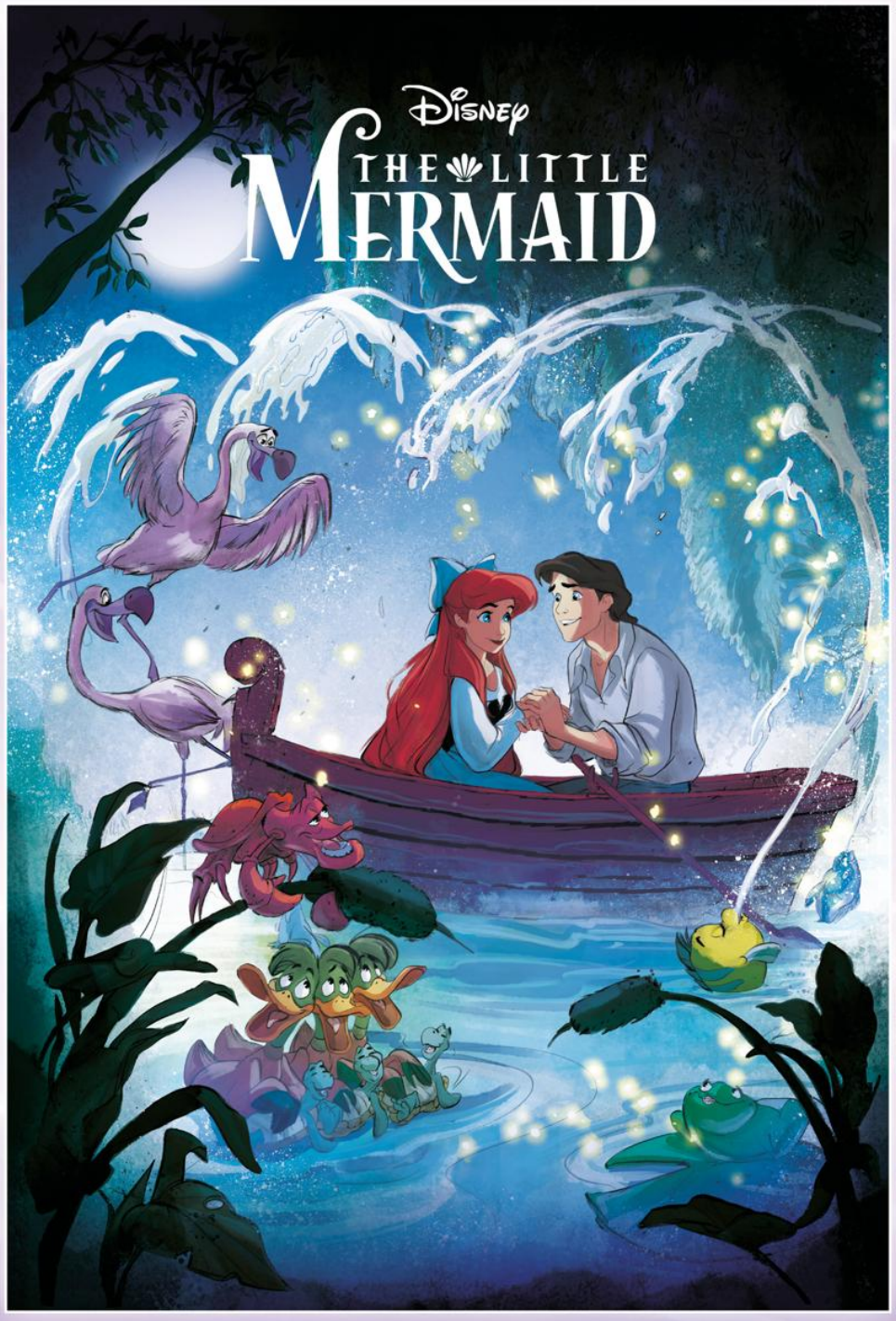
NOW. LIFE IS FULL OF DIFFICULT CHOICES, AND I'M A BUSY WOMAN.
WE HAVE A DEAL.
It's done. I'm ready.
NOW, SING!
SING!
I know what I'm doing. I love Eric.
I'm doing this for love.
I'm doing this for me.


It hurts!!
HA HA HA HA! GOOD LUCK, LITTLE DEAR.
Oh, it's hard to swim. What have I done? Help. Help!
WE HAVE YOU, ARIEL.
HANG IN THERE.
My dear friends. Help me!
No going back now.


OH, ARIEL.
ARE YOU OKAY?
LOOK AT WHAT SURFACED! YOU LOOK DIFFERENT! YOUR HAIR? YOU'VE BEEN USING THE DINGLEHOPPER, RIGHT?
Legs! Legs!
I CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT. TELL ME!
SHE HAS LEGS! SHE TRADED HER VOICE FOR LEGS.
SHE'S BECOME HUMAN. AND SHE HAS TO MAKE THE PRINCE KISS HER.
THIS IS A CATASTROPHE. AND WHAT WOULD HER FATHER SAY?!
I'm standing!
WE HAVE TO HELP HER.
FIRST THING. YOU HAVE TO DRESS LIKE A HUMAN.
This is really happening. This is not easy. I feel like a jellyfish.
SOMEONE IS COMING!
RARF! ARF!


ARE YOU OKAY, MISS?
YOU! HAVE WE MET?
He's here!
It's him.
Hello!
IT'S YOU! YOU'RE THE ONE I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR--WHAT'S YOUR NAME?!
Ariel! I'm Ariel!
I can't talk... right. How do I tell him I'm the one?
YOU CAN'T SPEAK? OH.
This might be harder than I thought.
I GUESS YOU'RE NOT WHO I THOUGHT YOU WERE. BUT IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH SOMETHING.


At least I found him.
LET ME HELP YOU. COME ON, YOU'LL BE OKAY.
We're going to the castle!
Three days. Three days to make him understand me.
I know I can do it.
We are meant to be.



Issue #3 on sale in December!

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